IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A deep brain stimulation system comprising:

a cannula having a lumen and a slit, the slit extending through a portion of a length of the cannula ~~along its length~~;

an elongated medical device dimensioned to be insertable within the cannula lumen; ~~and~~

a reference platform for supporting the medical device; and

a lock for securing a portion of the elongated medical device through the cannula slit to the reference platform~~, wherein the lock is fastened to a reference platform~~.

2. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a stereotactic frame, wherein the reference platform is attached to a the stereotactic frame.

3. (currently amended) The system of Claim 2, wherein the elongated medical device further comprises an offset portion that extends laterally out of the cannula through the slit when the elongated medical device is inserted in the lumen.

4. (currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the lock is ~~capable of securing~~ configured to secure the offset portion of the elongated medical device.

5. (currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the elongated medical device includes a lumen along its length, wherein the lumen of the elongated medical device does not ~~continue~~ extend through the offset portion.

6. (currently amended) A deep brain stimulation system comprising:

a cannula having a lumen therein for passage of a medical device into a patient and a slit, the slit extending through a portion of a length of the cannula ~~along its length~~;

~~a lead dimensioned to be insertable within the cannula lumen, said lead having a lumen;~~

a reference platform for supporting the medical device; and

a ~~lead~~ lock for securing a portion of the ~~lead~~ medical device through the cannula slit to the reference platform.~~, wherein the lead lock is fastened to a reference platform; and~~

~~a microelectrode dimensioned to be insertable into the lead lumen.~~

7. (currently amended) The system of Claim 6, further comprising a stereotactic frame, wherein the reference platform is attached to a the stereotactic frame.

8. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~7~~ 6, wherein the ~~lead~~ medical device further comprises an offset portion that extends laterally out of the cannula through the slit when the medical device is inserted in the lumen of the cannula.

9. (currently amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein the ~~lead~~ lock is ~~capable of securing~~ configured to secure the offset portion of the ~~lead~~ medical device.

10. (original) The system of Claim 8, wherein the offset portion further comprises a paddle electrode connector.

11. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~8~~ 10, wherein the paddle electrode connector is capable of forming an electrical connection with an operating room cable, which cable is capable of connecting to an external trial stimulator.

12. (currently amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein the medical device includes a lumen that ~~of the lead~~ does not ~~continue~~ extend through the offset portion.

13. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~8~~ 22, wherein the cannula ~~and microelectrode are~~ is configured to be removable from ~~capable of removal from the presence of~~ the ~~lead~~ medical device and the ~~lead~~ lock without disturbing the position of the medical device ~~lead when the lead is secured by the lead lock~~.

14. (currently amended) A method for securing a lead in a deep brain stimulation system comprising the steps of:

providing a cannula with a lumen and a slit, the slit extending through a portion of a length of the cannula;

inserting ~~providing~~ a lead into ~~inside~~ the lumen of the cannula, the lead having an offset portion; and

securing the offset portion of the lead through the slit using a lead lock.

15. (original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising the step of fastening the lead lock to a reference platform of a stereotactic frame.

16. (original) The method of Claim 15, the offset portion of the lead further including an electrode connector.

17. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~16~~ 14, wherein the step of securing comprises clamping the lead lock to the lead.

18. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~16~~ 14, wherein the step of securing comprises pinching the lead with the lead lock.

19. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~16~~ 14, wherein the step of securing comprises suturing the lead to the lead lock.

20. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~16~~ 14, wherein the step of securing comprises piercing the lead with the lead lock.

21. (new) The system of claim 1, wherein the lock, when engaged, is configured to prevent further passage of the elongated medical device through the lumen.

22. (new) The system of claim 6, wherein said medical device comprises at least one or more of a lead, a catheter, a microelectrode, and a stylet.

23. (new) The system of claim 6, wherein said medical device includes a lumen and wherein said system further comprises a microelectrode dimensioned to be insertable into the lumen of the medical device.

24. (new) The system of claim 6, wherein said cannula is removeably coupled to said reference platform.